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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 9, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 4 totaled an estimated 17.6 billion ton-miles, 18.0 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first five weeks of 1984 was an estimated 81.6 billion ton-miles, 9.9 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended February 4 totaled 397,215 cars, 16.5 percent above 1983, and 2.9 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 19.1 percent in the East, 10.0 percent in the South and 18.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 19 of the 21 commodity groups were up. Motor vehicles and equipment loadings were up 5,199 cars, or 34.0 percent; grain was up 7,870 cars, or 32.0 percent; and coal loadings increased by 16,665 cars, or 17.4 percent. Fifteen of the 21 greoups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 28 totaled 50,017 cars, up 18.9 percent from the corresponding week of 1983 and 87,280 trailers and/or containers, 20.2 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first four weeks of the year was 182,254 cars, 18.3 percent higher than last year, and 319,138 trailers and/or containers, up 21.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 2/4/84:

	Loadings in Week ended February 4, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	32,426	I	7,870	32.0	I	924	2.9
Other farm products	4,879	I	581	13.5	D	422	8.0
Metallic ores	11,732	I	2,449	26.4	D	986	7.8
Coal	112,354	I	16,665	17.4	I	4,351	4.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	8,653	I	1,249	16.9	I	701	8.8
Nonmetallic minerals	12,804	I	2,333	22.3	I	1,169	10.0
Grain mill products	11,982	I	83	0.7	D	359	2.9
Food and kindred products	11,443	D	1,784	13.5	I	356	3.2
Primary forest products	14,767	I	427	3.0	I	1,895	14.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,696	I	736	10.6	I	179	2.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,235	D	315	2.0	D	23	0.2
Chemicals and allied products	25,960	I	2,902	12.6	I	276	1.1
Petroleum products	5,103	I	942	22.6	D	206	3.9
Stone, clay and glass products	10,461	I	1,584	17.8	I	1,307	14.3
Coke	4,786	I	518	12.1	I	252	5.6
Metals and products	10,516	I	1,749	19.9	I	1,013	10.7
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,496	I	5,199	34.0	I	22	0.1
Waste and scrap materials	10,407	I	3,322	46.9	I	173	1.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,544	I	1,614	18.1	I	171	1.6
All other carloads	54,654	I	7,955	17.0	I	245	0.5
LCL traffic	317	I	109	52.4	D	3	0.9
Total Cars Loaded	397,215	I	56,188	16.5	I	11,035	2.9
Corresponding week of 1983	341,027						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (5 weeks)	1,834,710	1,674,378	I 9.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
4 weeks ended January 28	64.0	59.3	I 7.9
Week ended February 4	17.6	14.9	I 18.0
5 weeks cumulative	81.6	74.2	I 9.9

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